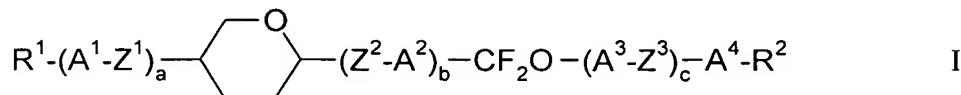




This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

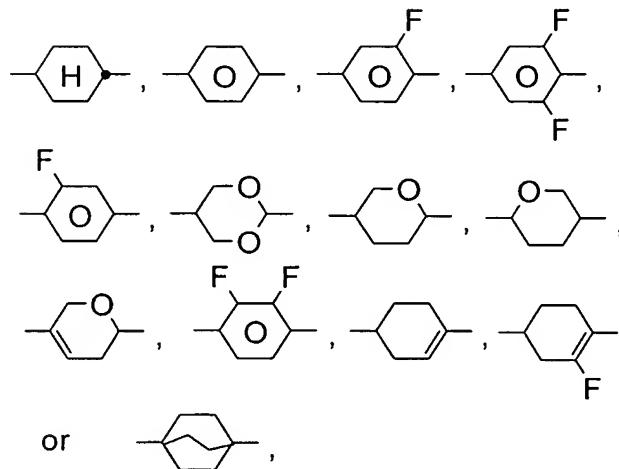
1. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline compounds A liquid-crystalline compound of the formula I:



in which

R^1 and R^2 each, independently of one another, denote H, halogen, a halogenated or unsubstituted alkyl or alkoxy radical having 1 to 15 C atoms, where, in addition, one or more CH_2 groups in these radicals may each, independently of one another, be are optionally replaced by $-C\equiv C-$, $-CH=CH-$, $-O-$, $-CO-O-$ or $-O-CO-$ in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another, and where one of the radicals R^1 and R^2 may alternatively denote is optionally CN, OCN, SCN, NCS or SF₅,

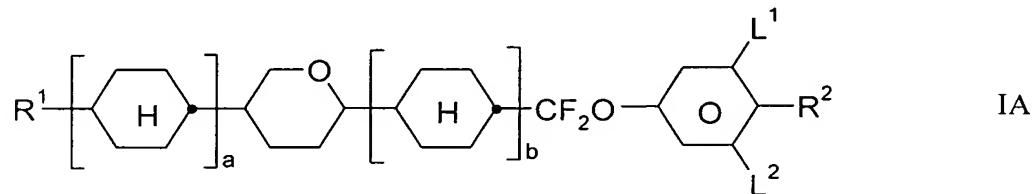
A^1 , A^2 , A^3 and A^4 each, independently of one another, denote



Z^1 , Z^2 and Z^3 each, independently of one another, denote -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CF₂O-, -OCF₂-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -(CH₂)₄-, -C₂F₄-, -CH₂CF₂-, -CF₂CH₂-, -CF=CF-, -CH=CH-, -C≡C- or a single bond, and

a , b and c each, independently of one another, denote 0, 1, 2 or 3, where
 $a + b + c \leq 3$.

2. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline compounds A liquid-crystalline compound of claim 1, which is of the formula IA:



in which

R^1 , R^2 , a , and b , and c have the meanings indicated in Claim 1, where $a + b = 1$ or 2, and

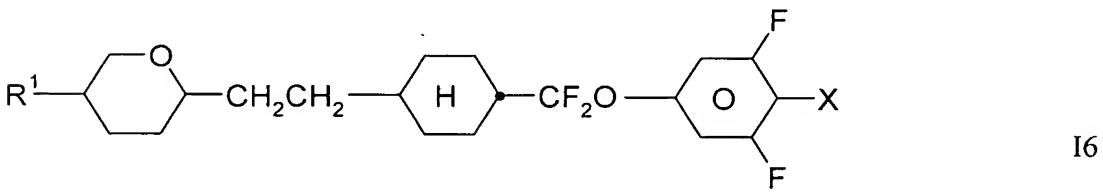
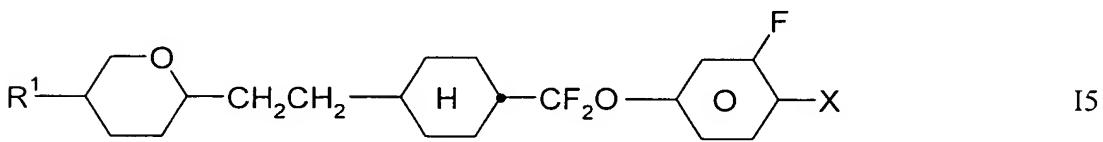
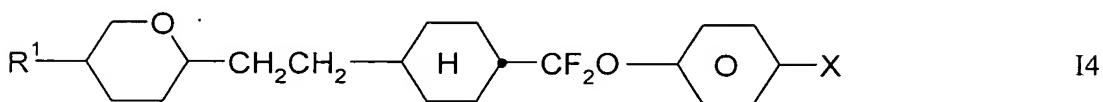
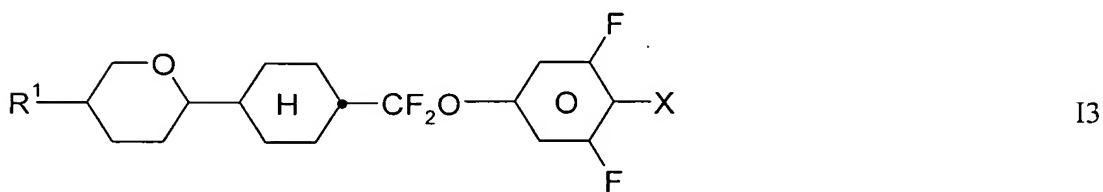
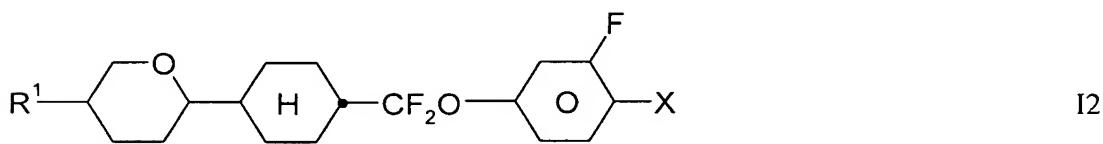
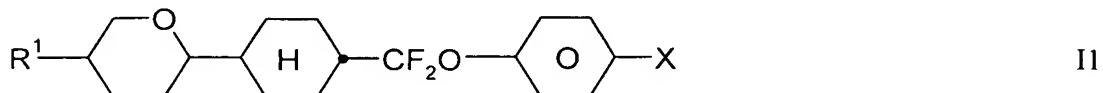
L^1 and L^2 each, independently of one another, denote H or F.

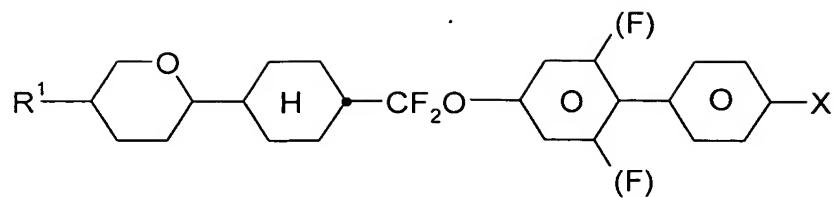
3. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline compounds A liquid-crystalline compound according to formula I of Claim 1, characterised in that wherein $a = 1$ and $b = 0$ or $a = 0$ and $b = 1$.

4. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline compounds A liquid-crystalline compound according to Claim 2, characterised in that wherein L^1 denotes fluorine and L^2 denotes fluorine or hydrogen.

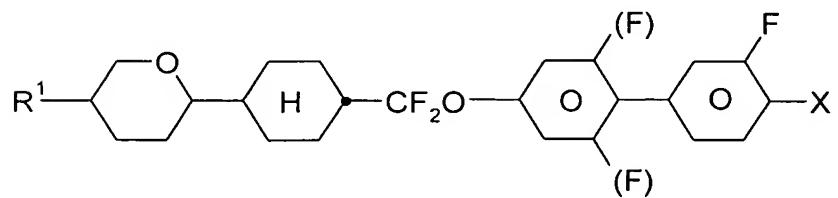
5. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline compounds A liquid-crystalline compound according to Claim 2, characterised in that wherein L^1 and L^2 denote fluorine.

6. (Currently Amended) Liquid-crystalline compounds A liquid-crystalline compound of claim 1, which is of one of the formulae I1 to I31:

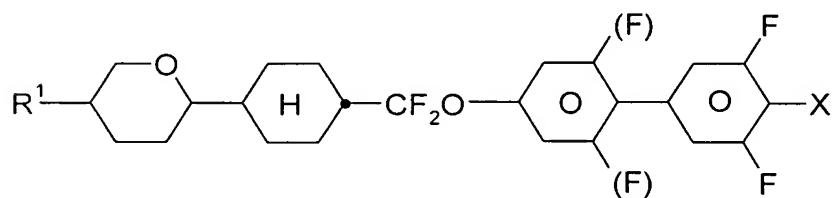




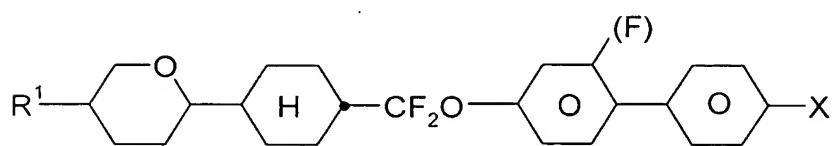
I17



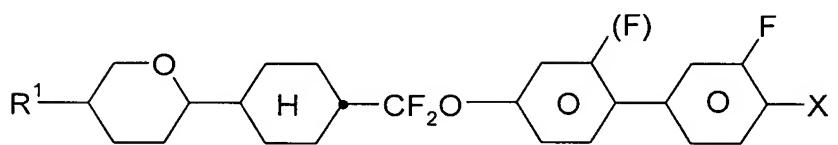
I18



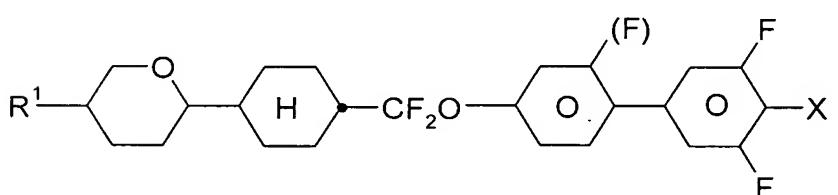
I19



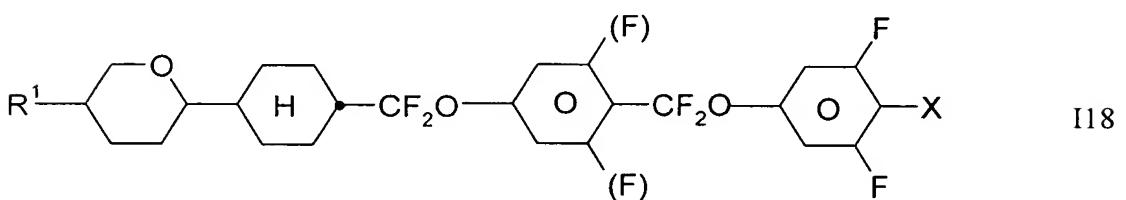
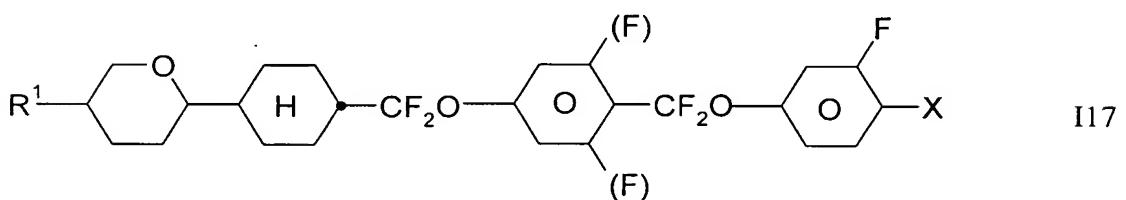
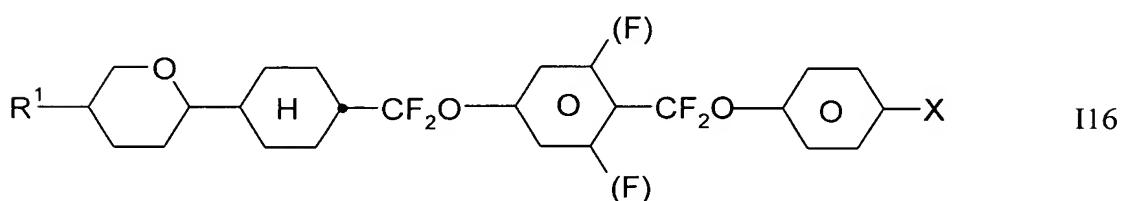
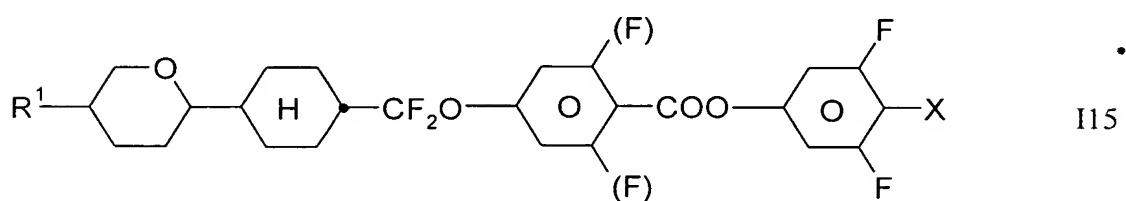
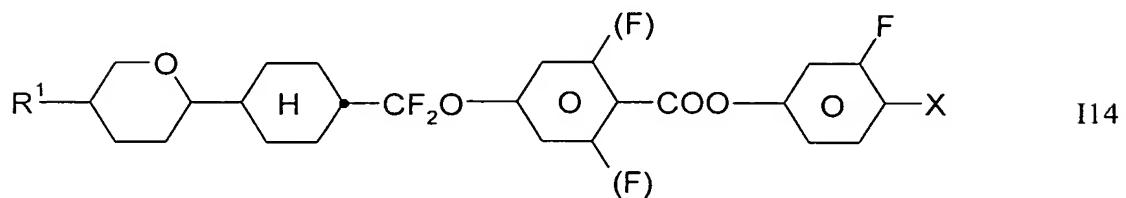
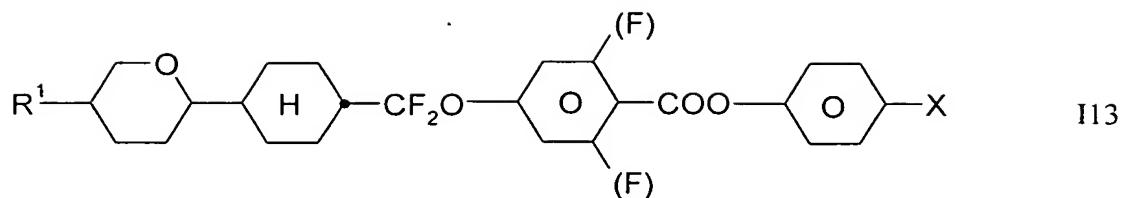
I10

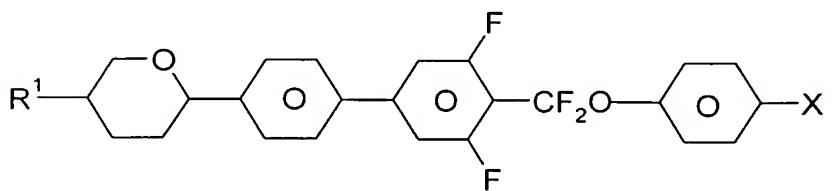
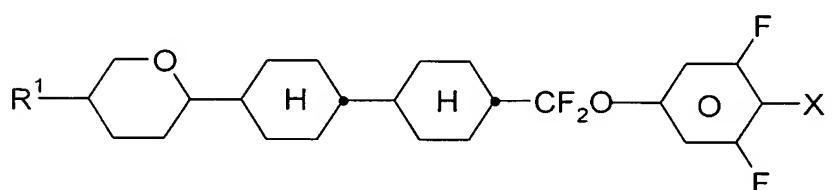
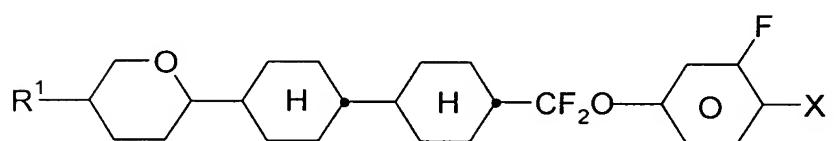
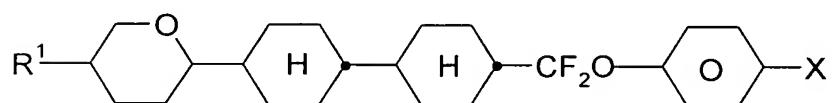
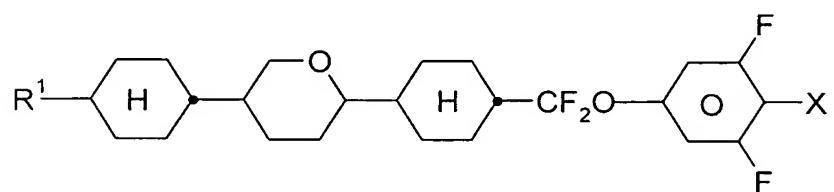
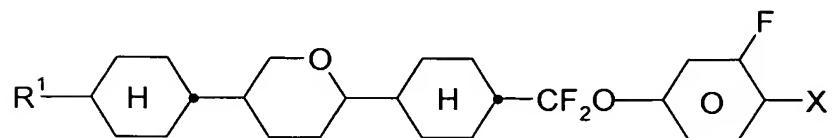
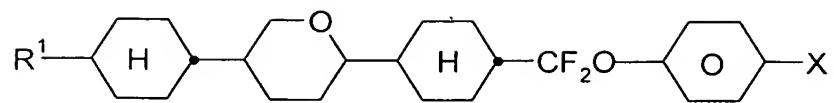


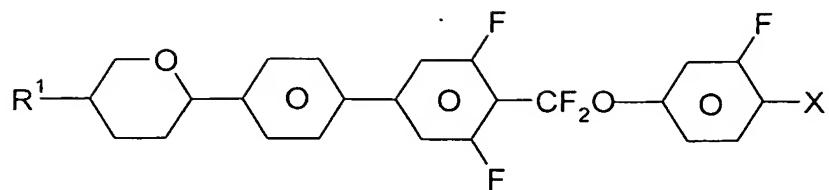
I11



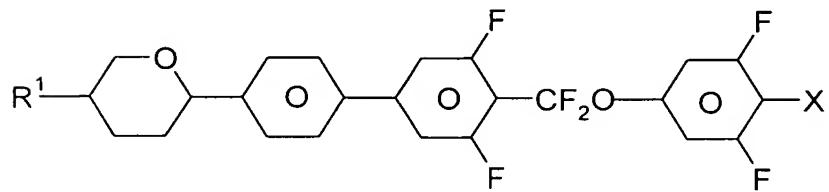
I12



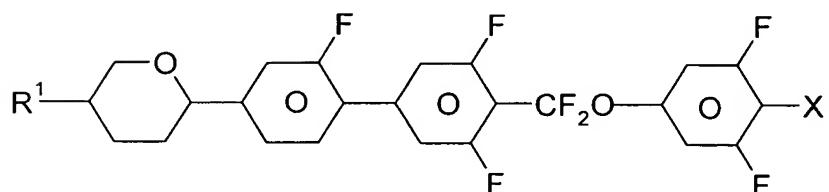




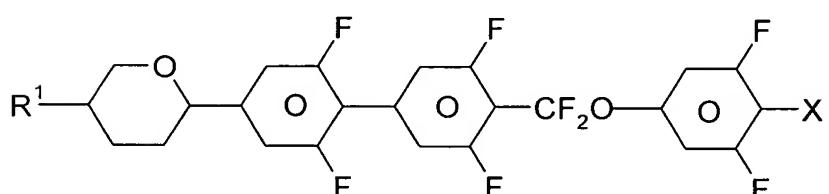
I26



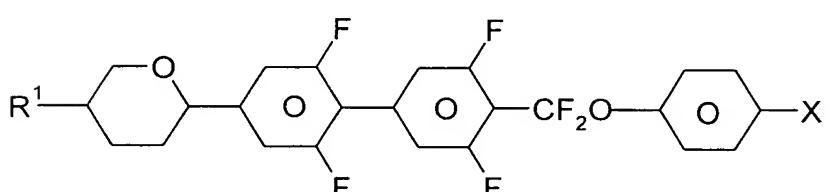
I27



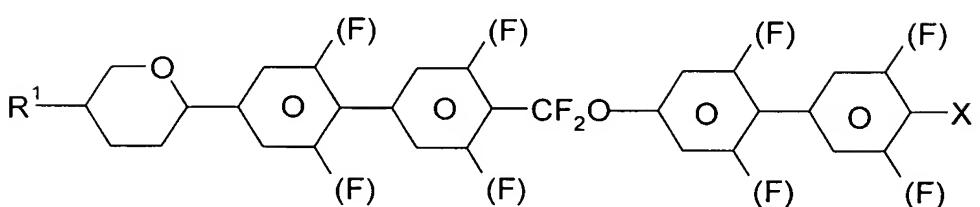
I28



I29



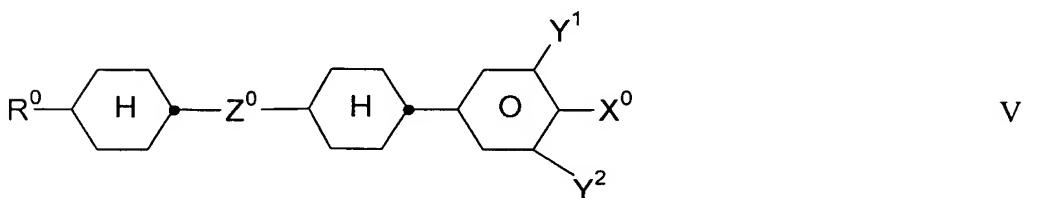
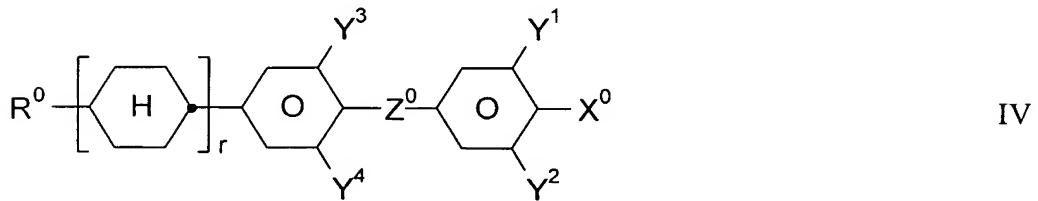
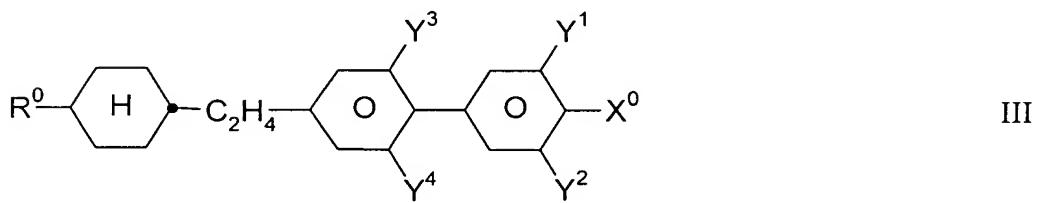
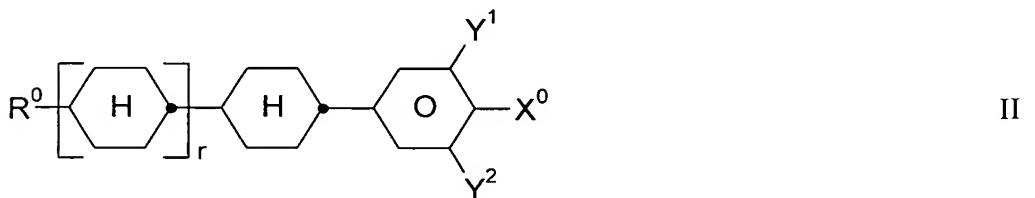
I30

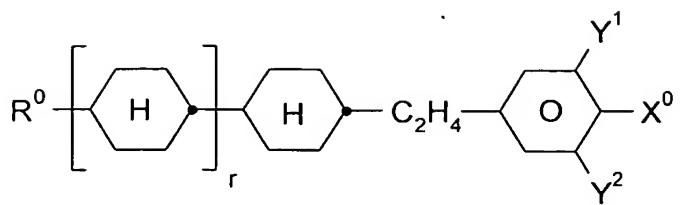


I31

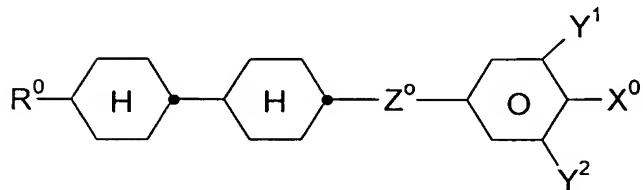
in which R¹ has the meaning indicated in Claim 1 and X has the meaning of R² in Claim 1.

7. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline medium comprising at least two mesogenic compounds, ~~characterised in that it~~ which comprises at least one compound of the formula I according to Claim 1.
8. **(Currently Amended)** Liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 7, ~~characterised in that it~~ which comprises one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of the compounds of general formulae II to IX:

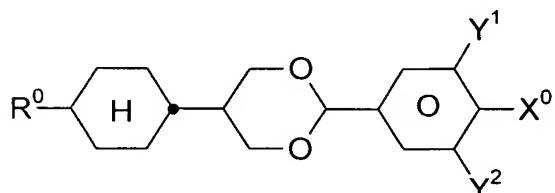




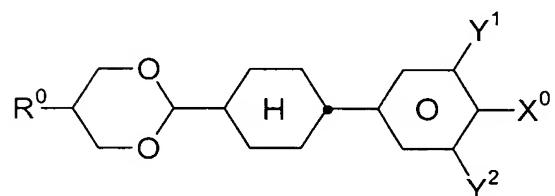
VI



VII



VIII



IX

in which

R^0 denotes n-alkyl, oxaalkyl, fluoroalkyl, alkenyloxy or alkenyl, each having up to 9 C atoms,

X^0 denotes F, Cl, halogenated alkyl, halogenated alkenyl, halogenated alkenyloxy or halogenated alkoxy having up to 7 C atoms,

Z^0 denotes $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{C}_2\text{H}_4-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$, $-\text{C}_2\text{F}_4-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$, $-\text{OCH}_2-$, $-\text{CF}=\text{CF}-$, $-\text{CF}_2\text{O}-$, $-\text{OCF}_2-$ or $-\text{COO}-$,

$\text{Y}^1, \text{Y}^2, \text{Y}^3$ and Y^4 each, independently of one another, denote H or F, and

r is 0 or 1.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) Electro-optical liquid-crystal display containing a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 7.
11. (New) A liquid-crystalline compound according to formula IA of Claim 2, wherein $a = 1$ and $b = 0$ or $a = 0$ and $b = 1$.
12. (New) Electro-optical liquid-crystal display containing a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 8.
13. (New) A liquid-crystalline compound of claim 1, which in formula I, $a = 0$.